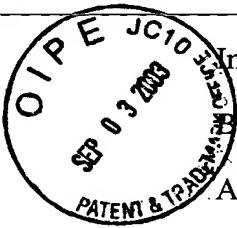


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Berens *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/852,053

Filed: May 1, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: C. Fronda

Title: Corynebacterium glutamicum Strain with Enhanced Secretion Activity

September 3, 2003

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

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Sir:

This is in response to the final official action dated June 3, 2003, wherein the pending claims were rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 101, and 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The applicants respectfully traverse in view of the following amendments and remarks.